

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendment and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 are pending. In the present amendment, Claim 1 is amended, and new Claims 7-10 are added. Support for the present amendment can be found in the original specification, for example, at page 5, lines 11-20, in Fig. 1, and in original Claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Sumerak (U.S. Patent No. 5,556,496); and Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Sumerak in view of Strachan (Great Britain Patent No. 2259044).

Turning now to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Amended Claim 1 recites, in part, “the obtained core is a folded 3-D structure with planar sides and ridges, the ridges connecting the core with skins of the sandwich panel.” It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose or suggest each feature recited in amended Claim 1.

Sumerak discusses a process for producing thermoset pultruded articles having a variable cross-sectional profile. However, Fig. 1 and the portions of Sumerak asserted in the Office Action as disclosing the claimed sandwich panel core merely describe the apparatus for the pultrusion of a sheet into square, circular, T-shaped or other two dimensional shapes. Thus, Sumerak does not disclose or suggest that the folded sheet is a 3-D structure as recited in amended Claim 1. Further, Sumerak does not disclose or suggest connecting the core with skins of a sandwich panel. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 1, and all claims which depend thereon, as anticipated by Sumerak, be withdrawn.

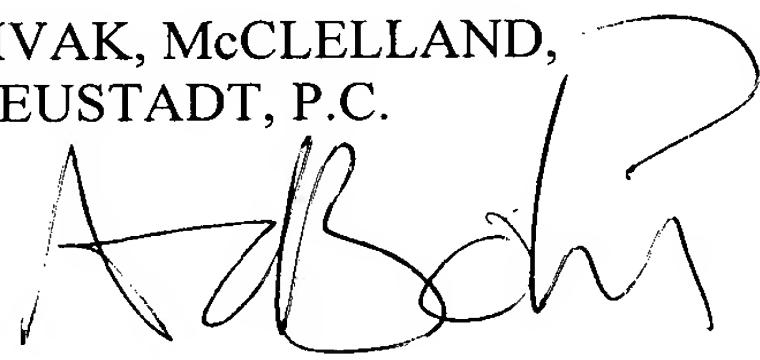
Claims 5 and 6 depend on Claim 1, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the remaining cited reference (Strachan) does not cure the above-noted deficiencies of Sumerak. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 5 and 6 be withdrawn.

New Claims 7-10 are added by the present amendment. Support for new Claims 7-10 can be found in the original specification, for example, at page 5, lines 11-20, in Fig. 1 and in original Claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added. New Claims 7-9 depend on Claim 1 and new independent Claim 10 recites features similar to those of Claim 1. Thus, new Claims 7-10 are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that new Claims 7-10 be allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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